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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/519,377	01/31/2005	Antonio Frias Frias	CON 205	4889
7590	03/02/2006		EXAMINER	
Horst M. Kasper 13 Forest Drive Warren, NJ 07059			GALL, LLOYD A	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3676	

DATE MAILED: 03/02/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/519,377	FRIAS FRIAS ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Lloyd A. Gall	3676	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 19 December 2005.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-7 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-7 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on 31 January 2005 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____	5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
	6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: In the new Abstract, line 2, the term "means" should not appear in an Abstract. In the last two lines of the substituted paragraph to page 3, lines 3-12, "parts (10) and (12)" is inaccurate (see figure 3).

Appropriate correction is required.

Claims 1 and 2 are objected to because of the following informalities: In claim 1, line 1, it is not clear what is meant by "of those constituted as from". In claim 2, line 2, there is no antecedent basis for "the shaft". Appropriate correction is required.

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 2 and 4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Kallinger-Prskawetz-Jacobsen (345).

Kallinger-Prskawetz-Jacobsen teaches a key with a detachable head, including a shaft 1 with projections (directly above the holes 4) in figure 6 defining a semi-circular area between the projections, a head 2 having a slot 5 to receive the upper end of the shaft 1, the body 2 having a perforation 3 in its central area to receive a stop 8 fitted for the perforation 3 and the projections, which retains the body 2 to the shaft 1, and vice versa.

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1, 3 and 5-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gartner (965) in view of Humphrey (346) and Terada (665).

Gartner teaches an end 60 of a key shaft inserted into a slot 36 of a key head, and a stop 68 for engaging an aperture 61 of the key shaft. Humphrey teaches an end of a key shaft having projections and a semi-circular area to receive a stop 21, 28 inserted into a perforation 16. Terada teaches a reduced thickness 13 of an end of a key shaft. It would have been obvious to substitute projections and a semi-circular area for the end of the key shaft 60 of Gartner for receiving a stop through a perforation of the key head, in view of the teaching of Humphrey, the motivation being to allow the key shaft of Gartner to be easily removable when desired, as seen in fig. 7 of Humphrey. It would have been obvious to provide the end of the key shaft of Gartner with a smaller thickness than the rest of the key shaft, in view of the teaching of Terada, the motivation being to allow less material to be used, as a cost savings measure. Additionally, with respect to new claims 5-7, it would have been obvious to substitute a removable stop within the perforation(s) 69 of Gartner, after the shaft is inserted into the key head slot, in view of the teaching of Humphrey, the motivation being to strengthen the connection between the key head and shaft.

Claims 2 and 4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gartner (965) in view of Humphrey (346).

Gartner teaches an end 60 of a key shaft inserted into a slot 36 of a key head, and a stop 68 for engaging an aperture 61 of the key shaft. Humphrey teaches an end of a key shaft having projections and a semi-circular area to receive a stop 21, 28 inserted into a perforation 16. It would have been obvious to substitute projections and a semi-circular area for the end of the key shaft 60 of Gartner for receiving a stop through a perforation of the key head, in view of the teaching of Humphrey, the motivation being to allow the key shaft of Gartner to be easily removable when desired, as seen in fig. 7 of Humphrey.

Applicant's arguments filed December 19, 2005 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. In response to applicant's remarks in the third full paragraph of page 8, it is submitted that the Humphrey reference is clearly analogous art in relation to the Gartner and Terada references. All three of the references relate to the attachment of the end of the key shaft to a key head/holding structure. With respect to the last full paragraph of page 8, it is submitted that no reasoning is set forth as to why the tongues 68 of Gartner may not be relied upon as a "stop", or why the elements 21, 28 of Humphrey which pass through the semi-circular area of the key head cannot be relied upon as a "stop". With respect to the remarks on page 9, lines 3-5, it is submitted that the tongues 68 of Gartner and the elements 21, 28 of Humphrey are also holding their respective shaft and head/holder together, and likewise may be regarded as a stop.

Further, with respect to the remarks concerning Humphrey in the second full paragraph of page 9, it is noted that the reference to Humphrey is relied upon as a secondary reference, and is used in modifying the primary reference to Gartner. It is submitted that the Humphrey reference is argued individually, and the references as combined is not addressed by these remarks.

With respect to the remarks on page 9 concerning the Terada reference, again it is noted that the Terada reference is not relied upon as teaching a detachable head, but is relied upon as a secondary reference combined with the detachable head of the Gartner reference.

The remarks on page 10, the first full paragraph, concerning the hole 16 of Humphrey are not clear, as element 21 extends through hole 18 and also extends within the semi-circular area of the key head defined by the projections.

In response the remarks on page 10, the third full paragraph, the claiming of the end of the shaft as having a thickness smaller than the rest of the shaft, would still allow the stop of Gartner as modified by the Humphrey reference to extend into the end of the key shaft to hold the shaft and head together. Further, this claim limitation also allows for the bitting end 24 of the shaft of Gartner to have a thicker dimension relative to the end of the shaft which is inserted into the key head.

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Lloyd A. Gall whose telephone number is 571-272-7056. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 8:30-5:00.

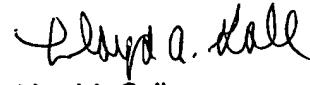
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Brian Glessner can be reached on 571-272-6843. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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LG LG
February 24, 2006


Lloyd A. Gall
Primary Examiner